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Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of Falmouth, for the Fiscal Year Ending March 13, 1888

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

OF THE

TOWN OF FALMOUTH,

FOR THE

MUNICIPAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 13, 1888



WEST FALMOUTH:
A. S. NOYES, JOB PRINTER,
1888.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

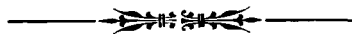
MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

OF THE

TOWN OF FALMOUTH,

FOR THE

MUNICIPAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 13, 1888



WEST FALMOUTH:
A. S. NOYES, JOB PRINTER,
1888.

Gentlemen :

In presenting our report to you for the year ending March 1st. 1888, we wish to call your attention to the Highways and their repairs. The complaint has been made to us from many of the tax-payers of the town, that we are not getting a fair equivalent in labor for the amount of money expended in repairing the highways. You are well aware that only about one half of the tax payers ever do any labor on the highways, they either let it go into their next year's money tax or hire some one to work out their tax at a discount, and they usually hire any one they can get, and in some cases it makes no difference whether the men they hire are good for any thing to work or not if they only get their tax worked out, and the man hired has no particular interest in any thing except twenty cents per hour, and surveyors as a rule do not like to cut down the pay of men even if they are poor men to work.

There has been great complaint the past year from surveyors of highways about the tax payers not working when notified, in some highway districts the surveyors have been obliged to go out of their districts to get men to do the necessary repairs, and later on the tax-payers, when it suited their convenience, would go to the surveyor and say they were ready to go to work on the highway and claim the right to work out their highway tax and would get offended if the surveyor refused to set them to work ; the surveyors cannot spend much

of their time on the highway looking after one or two men just when it suits their convenience to work and it is a poor way to let Tom, Dick and Harry work out their tax when and how they please with no one to look after them.

We find it very difficult in some districts to get a man to be surveyor, in one district there was not a man that would accept the position and we were obliged to appoint a man from another district, consequently we are obliged some times to appoint a man for surveyor who is not fitted for the position, some one perhaps that has no practical knowledge of repairing the highways.

There is also a general complaint in regard to the division of the money raised for repairing the highways, some districts getting more than they need, and others not enough to do one half the necessary repairs, and your selectmen have no authority to change it under our present system.

We believe that it is conceded by all practical men that the proper time to repair the highways is immediately after the frost is out of the ground and that is usually sometime in April, then all bad places show themselves and can be properly repaired. the farmers are likely at that time to have more leisure time than they will later on, and we think it is poor policy to put much gravel, soil or dirt of any kind or spend much money on the highways in the fall of the year, the repairs should be done earlier, we think it is about the same as throwing money away, about all you can do in the fall is to fix up the bad places in the road and keep the drains open ; these gentlemen are we think the reasons that some of our highways are in such bad condition and we earnestly recommend a change in our system of repairs. We most respectfully submit the foregoing remarks to the taxpayers of this town for their consideration.

JAMES E. MERRILL,	} <i>Selectmen</i>
FRANK MOULTON.	
WM. E. WINSLOW,	
	<i>of</i>
	<i>Falmouth.</i>

Warrant for Town Meeting.

To Joseph W. Merrill, a Constable of the Town of Falmouth, in the County of Cumberland,

GREETING :

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the said Town of Falmouth, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Town House, in said town, on the fifth day of March, 1887, at nine o'clock in the forenoon to act upon the following articles, to wit :

First. To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

Second. To choose a town clerk for the ensuing year.

Third. To hear and act upon the report of the selectmen, assessors, overseers of the poor, treasurer and school committee.

Fourth. To choose all other necessary town officers for the ensuing year.

Fifth. To see if the town will grant and raise such sums of money as may be necessary for the maintenance and support of schools, and the poor, and repairs of roads and bridges, and to defray all other town charges for the ensuing year.

Sixth. To see what action the town will take in regard to the pay of town officers.

Seventh. To see what method the town will adopt to repair the highways for the ensuing year.

Eighth. To see what the town will pay per hour for the labor of men, horses and oxen on the highways.

Ninth. To see if the town will vote to make a discount on all taxes paid within a stated time.

Tenth. To see how much per cent discount the town will allow on all taxes paid within a stated time.

Eleventh. To see if the town will vote to raise money to pay discount on taxes, and how much.

Twelfth. To see what compensation the town will vote the collector for his services the ensuing year.

Thirteenth. To see if the town will vote to raise money to rebuild the culvert near Smith Barber's.

Fourteenth. To see if the town will vote to sell the Alms House and town farm.

Fifteenth. To see if the town will authorize the Treasurer to sell the town farm, if a fair price can be obtained.

Sixteenth. To see what the town will do with the poor, if the town farm is sold the ensuing year.

Seventeenth. To see if the town will choose a committee of two or more, to take some action in regard to the railroad crossings on the Maine Central railroad, one near Mr. Samuel Skillin's dwelling, the other near Mr. Joshua Whitehouse's dwelling, by conferring with the Deering authorities, and carry the matter to the next State Legislature, if necessary, or before the County Commissioners.

Eighteenth. To see if the town will vote to charge interest on all taxes that are not paid in nine months from time of commitment.

Nineteenth. To see if the town will choose four or more Constables, to protect its clamming interest, said officers to serve without pay.

Twentieth. To see if the town will vote to abolish the School District system.

Twenty-first. To see if the town will choose a committee of two or more, authorizing them to buy gravel land for the town, in every district where practicable, to be used for repairing the highways, or to look the matter up and be prepared to report at an adjourned meeting.

Twenty-second. To see if the town will vote to buy a road machine, and raise money for the same.

Twenty-third. To see if the town will vote to tax all real estate assessed for repairs upon the highways, and work out the same in the district where said real estate is located. On petition of C. E. Winslow, Amos Leighton, Wm. Leighton, Wilbur Libby and Fenwick Merrill.

Twenty-fourth. To see if the town will vote to raise \$200.00 to be expended towards laying out and building a road, leading from the town road, to the shore on the property formerly owned by John Locke, for a public landing and coal wharf. On petition of W. K. Swett, F. E. Sargent, Wm. Griffin and H. M. Sargent.

Twenty-fifth. To see if the town will vote to take the property of John Woodbury from school district No. 10 and annex the same to school district No. 7. As recommended by the Selectmen and Superintending School Committee.

The Selectmen give notice that they will be in session for the purpose of correcting the list of voters in said town, and hearing and deciding upon the application of persons claiming to have their names entered upon said lists, at the town office, at eight o'clock in the forenoon, on the day of said meeting.

Given under our hands, this 21st. day of February, A. D., 1888.

JAMES E. MERRILL,	} <i>Selectmen</i>
FRANK MOULTON,	
WM. E. WINSLOW,	
	<i>of</i>
	<i>Falmouth.</i>

Report of Selectmen.

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Falmouth :

We herewith submit for your consideration a statement of the Receipts and Expenditures of the Town, for the fiscal year ending March 1, 1888.

VALUATION, 1887

Real Estate,	\$626,615
Personal Estate,	228,085
Supplementary,	550
	<hr/>
Total Valuation,	\$855,250
Number of Polls, 391.	
Supplementary Polls, 1.	
Rate of taxation. \$1 03 on \$100.	
Poll Tax, \$3 00.	

TAXES ASSESSED 1887.

For State Tax,	\$2,119 86
County Tax,	597 29
Schools,	2,000 00
Poor,	500 00
Out Poor,	100 00
Bridges,	400 00
Town Officers,	600 00
Snow Bills,	900 00
Discount,	400 00
Contingences,	600 00
Grave Yard Fence,	20 00
Town Debt.	1,000 00
Railing for Bridge,	50 00
Overlay,	399 52
Deficient Highway,	346 58
	<hr/>
	\$7,616 10
	<hr/>
Total Assessment,	\$10,333 25
Total Commitment,	\$10,333 25
Supplementary Tax,	8 67

Account of Expenditures.

TOWN OFFICERS.

D. F. Small, Treasurer,	\$30 84
J. E. Merrill, Selectman.	99 00
Frank Moulton, "	92 00
H. K. Norton, "	86 00
H. J. Merrill, Supervisor,	75 25
J. W. Merrill, Surveying wood and brick,	21 80
A. S. Noyes, Town Clerk.	10 25
J. W. Merrill, Collecting tax for 1887,	46 31
A. S. Noyes, Collecting tax 1885 in full,	110 95
	<hr/>
	\$572 40
Appropriation,	600 00
	<hr/>
Balance in favor of appropriation,	27 60

BRIDGES.

Oliver Hardy, railing bridge near his dwelling,	\$14 47
LeGrow Bros., car load of plank,	118 90
Maine Central Railroad, freight,	25 00
W. E. Winslow, unloading plank and labor on bridge,	2 10
J. E. Merrill, unloading plank,	1 50
Stephen Huston Jr., labor on Field's bridge,	5 00
Plank used for culverts and bridges,	66 71
	<hr/>
	\$233 68
Appropriation,	\$400 00
Plank sold A. S. Noyes,	4 48
5,130 feet Plank on hand,	71 82
	<hr/>
	476 30
	<hr/>
Balance in favor of appropriation,	\$242 62

SNOW BILLS.

Fenwick Merrill,	\$66 90
John Woodbury,	65 50
L. W. Hadlock,	8 10
Daniel Wilson,	50 05
Broda Hinck,	22 20
Curtis Colley,	56 70
Amos Leighton,	24 80
Nelson B. Elliott,	28 40
Stephen O'Brion,	27 80
Silas Skillin,	131 04
Perez Babbidge,	63 40
Geo. P. Dearborn,	60 80
F. O. J. Pride,	85 90
T. B. Richards,	31 60
G. A. Pride,	30 50
A. F. Winslow,	29 08
Ira Winn,	93 35
Oliver Hardy,	65 59
Frank Marston,	31 80
H. L. Waite,	19 80
L. N. Swett,	46 50
A. J. Morgan,	19 35
Andrew Gowell,	23 74
W. H. Field,	23 50
Albert Winslow,	55 60
George Allen,	4 60
Daniel W. Lunt,	4 00
A. C. Miller,	3 00
Edward Merrill,	5 00
	<hr/>
Appropriation,	\$1,178 60
	900 00
	<hr/>
Balance against Appropriation,	\$278 60

CONTINGENCES.

F. F. Hall, gravel,	\$5 00
W. A. Anderson, gravel,	9 59
E. C. Blanchard, care of town house,	3 00
Second Parish Church, interest,	24 00
	<hr/>
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	\$41 59

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$41 59
T. B. Richards, labor on highways,	51 45
Oliver Hardy, " " "	17 10
Frank Marston, " " "	24 56
A. S. Noyes, printing reports,	18 00
McLellan & Mosher, books, etc.,	22 54
Storer Knight, revising mortgage list,	2 50
Daily Press, advertising brick house,	3 00
Hale Leighton, gravel, 1885,	10 00
Portland Savings Bank, interest,	150 00
John Noyes, interest,	30 00
Winslow & Co., tile,	8 75
W. E. Winslow, hauling and laying tile,	3 50
W. H. Barker, gravel,	2 79
P. Ricker, labor on highways,	2 50
F. Reed, board of tramp,	2 25
W. W. Libby, gravel,	10 00
Martin L. Wilder, labor on highway,	3 10
J. W. Merrill, " " "	24 15
George Allen, " " "	6 46
Eastern Argus, advertising,	3 00
Geo. Mountfort, labor on highway,	35 50
Curtis Colley, " " "	47 00
Young & Purinton, blacksmith work,	1 40
N. & H. B. Cleaves,	*126 00
J. S. Webb, board of Nath. Leighton,	59 65
Portland Publishing Co., advertising non-resident tax,	21 00
D. F. Small, selling town property,	5 00
John Woodbury, labor on highway,	21 59
School books for Tolman family,	1 80
Stephen Huston, labor on highway,	1 15
H. P. Anderson, gravel,	10 60
D. F. Small, taxes bid in by the town,	25 64
Bradley Adams, material for derrick,	2 00
J. A. P. Merrill, labor on highway,	3 20
Frank Moulton, postage stamps and expressage,	1 08
D. F. Small, tax deeds,	7 37
Grenville Hall, gravel,	10 00
A. S. Noyes, circulars for board of health,	2 25
A. S. Noyes, duplicate order No. 163, drawn Oct. 31. 1885,	65 50
John Woodbury, gravel,	5 00
A. S. Noyes, resident taxes 1885 bought by town,	71 18
A. S. Noyes, abatements on 1885 tax,	24 71

Amount carried forward, \$985 86

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$985 86
Appropriation,	600 00
	<hr/>
Balance against appropriation,	\$385 86

* A part of the bill of N. & H. B. Cleaves was for legal services in the matter of commutation, and has been standing against the town for a number of years.

FENCING BURYING LOT.

LeGrow Bros., lumber,	\$16 00
Albert Winslow, hauling lumber,	4 00
	<hr/>
	\$20 00
Appropriation,	\$20 00
By contribution,	30 00
	<hr/>
	50 00
	<hr/>
Cost of fencing and clearing up the lot,	\$50 00

RAILING OF IRON BRIDGE.

Eben Woodbury, building fence and hauling lumber,	\$20 00
LeGrow Bros., lumber,	31 42
A. S. Noyes, nails,	1 34
J. E. Merrill, purchasing lumber and hauling a part.	3 00
Daniel Dobbin, horse for hauling lumber,	75
	<hr/>
	\$56 51
Appropriation,	\$50 00
Lumber for railing culvert,	3 60
	<hr/>
	\$53 60
	<hr/>
Balance against Appropriation,	\$2 91

TAXES ABATED FOR 1887.

On list of A. S. Noyes, for 1885,	\$24 71
On list of J. W. Merrill, for 1886,	57 93
	<hr/>
	\$82 64

DISCOUNT ON TAXES.

Appropriation,	\$400 00
Amount Allowed,	164 82
	<hr/>
Balance in favor of appropriation,	\$235 18

SUMS RECOMMENDED TO BE RAISED.

Schools,	\$2,000 00
Poor,	500 00
Out Poor,	400 00
Bridges,	400 00
Town Officers,	600 00
Snow Bills,	1,000 00
Discount,	400 00
Contingences,	700 00

JAMES E. MERRILL, } *Selectmen*
 FRANK MOULTON, } *of*
 WM. E. WINSLOW, } *Falmouth.*

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF THE POOR. OUT POOR.

F. W. Buxton, supplies for T. R. Beals,	\$ 8 36
J. W. Chase, Insane,	59 64
S. S. Rich & Son, coffin,	17 00
T. B. Richards & Co., supplies for Peter Herrick,	15 17
Wm. E. Winslow, burying man killed on railroad,	5 00
Robert Robinson, sick soldier, fare to Togus,	2 30
G. D. Sargent, supplies for G. F. Libby,	41 19
J. W. Chase, Insane,	61 41
T. B. Richards & Co., supplies for Peter Herrick,	7 49
J. W. Chase, Insane,	70 11
G. D. Sargent, supplies for G. F. Libby,	26 73
F. C. Dolley, medical attendance P. Herrick's family.	54 50
J. W. Chase, Insane,	69 66
G. D. Sargent, supplies for G. F. Libby,	27 27
	<hr/> \$465 83

CREDIT.

Appropriation,	\$400 00
Received from Pownal, G. F. Libby,	67 92
" " Gray, Peter Herrick,	77 16
" " Coroner Gould,	5 00
Due from Pownal acct G. F. Libby,	27 27
	<hr/> \$577 35
Balance in favor of Appropriation.	<hr/> \$111 52

Alms House and Farm in Account with the Town.

N. A. Lockhart, balance of salary, 1886,	\$140 00
Dr.	
T. B. Richards & Co., supplies, 1886,	26 68
W. P. Newman, " "	17 85
A. S. Noyes, " "	11 45
W. P. Newman, " 1887,	66 75
T. B. Richards & Co., " "	87 75
A. S. Noyes, " "	62 78
	<hr/>
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	\$413 26

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$413 26
Dr. Osgood, examining Mary Leighton,	3 00
Hall Rubber Co., rubber blanket,	2 25
G. Hamlin, pump and repairing mowing machine,	13 49
G. W. Merrill, blacksmith work, 1886.	2 60
G. W. Merrill, one cow,	45 00
G. T. Richards, on salary,	30 00
Merrill Bros., meat, 1886.	2 95
S. S. Rich & Son, coffin and robe for F. Blair,	13 50
Robert Jones,	1 00
Goods bought and sundry bills paid,	72 01
	<hr/>
	\$599 06

Ck.

Appropriation,	\$500 00
475 lbs. Butter,	119 77
208 doz. Eggs,	39 43
190 gallons Sweet Milk,	26 79
114 " Sour Milk,	6 84
Hay sold,	10 36
Bedding sold,	18 39
Pumpkins sold,	6 03
46 lbs. Chickens.	7 41
Beans sold,	1 32
Calves sold,	6 00
Calves pastured,	6 00
Labor performed off the farm.	26 95
	<hr/>
	\$775 29

Balance in favor of appropriation.	176 23
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At the commencement of the year, there were three persons at the Almshouse, Francis Blair, Lydia Allen and Almira B. Hobbs. About the last of March Robert Jones applied for permission to go to the poor-farm, and stopped there about four weeks; again about the 16th of December he came back, and is there at present. Francis Blair died Jan. 16, leaving three inmates at present.

An inventory of stock, produce and groceries on farm Jan. 30th, 1888, showed 4 cows, 1 calf, 2 swine, 18 hens, 13 tons hay, 7 1-2 bush. beans, 1 2-3 bbls. pork, 40 lbs. lard, 1 gall. molasses, 2 lbs. sugar, 1 lb. coffee, 1-4 lb. tea.

FARMING TOOLS AND HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.

1 mowing machine. 1 ox cart, 2 pairs ox wheels, 1 axletree and drafts, 1 stone drag, 4 ox yokes. 4 pairs ox bows. pair skids, 2 hay

forks, 2 shovels, 2 crow bars, 2 scythes and snaths, 2 hoes, 2 axes and handles, 2 cross cut saws, 2 manure forks, derrick with necessary tackle, pair steel dogs and chain, pair iron dogs, 2 derrick chains, 2 ox chains, binding chain, portable forge, ox sled, 2 ox hay racks, 2 plows, farm cart and wheels for horse, horse rack, harrow, 2 cultivators, revolving horse rake, 2 grind stones, tool chest, 2 wood saws, 2 corn cutters, sprinkler, 2 ladders, road machine, 7 tie chains, horse collar, drag rake.

Large wood range, medium wood range, 26 chairs, 5 tables, 32 tin milk pans, churn, clothes basket, 2 half bushel measures, 2 wash tubs, 2 hhd. tubs, ice chest, 2 trunks, 2 chests, 2 clocks, lantern, 2 lard firkins, book of history, 2 stone jars, 2 tin milk pails, 2 water pails, molasses keg, washboard, butter bowl, 21 comforters and quilts 6 feather beds, 4 straw beds, 13 pillows, 25 pillow cases, 21 sheets, 6 bedsteads, 6 blankets, 6 towels, small writing desk, bureau, rubber blanket.

We have bought one cow for the farm this year, also one new wooden pump. The farm has furnished lodging and thirty-six meals for tramps this winter. We find the farming tools most of them old and *played out*, also the bedding is very much worn and needs replenishing. Your overseers of the poor are well satisfied with Mr. Richards and wife as master and mistress of the poor farm, the poor have been well taken care of, and Mr. Richards and wife have done as well as they could for the town under the circumstances.

JAMES E. MERRILL,	} Overseers of the Poor.
FRANK MOULTON,	
WM. E. WINSLOW,	

TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

Mar. 14.	Cash on hand,	\$1154 20
"	" from S. A. Lockhart,	8 19
Apr. 4.	" " Town of Pownal,	63 93
"	" " W. H. Field,	1 81
June 6.	" " Margaret A. Field,	314 00
Aug. 6.	" " N. Bowie, tax claim,	26 26
"	" " Town of Pownal,	41 19
Sept. 5.	" " W. E. Winslow,	5 00
Nov. 7.	" " John Flannagin, derrick,	20 00
"	" " J. B. Cummings, Asa Field place,	700 00
Dec. 5.	" " Town of Gray,	77 16
Jan. 2.	" " Town of Cumberland,	10 00
"	" " Sarah M. Stile, wood lot,	90 00
"	" " H. H. Furbush, tax claim,	4 39
"	" " A. S. Noyes, plank,	4 48
"	" " State School Fund 1886-7,	1,647 54
Feb. 6.	" " Hay sold, Asa Field place,	12 00
"	" " Town of Pownal,	26 73
"	" " S. O'Brien, wood,	2 50
"	" " A. S. Noyes, tax bills 1885 in full,	541 58
"	" " J. W. Merrill, tax bills 1886 in full,	1,613 61
"	" " J. W. Merrill, tax bllls 1887,	2,537 71
"	" " G. T. Richards,	171 72
		<hr/>
		\$9,074 00

EXPENDITURES.

Orders paid,	\$7,050 81
Paid Portland Savings Bank,	1,000 00
Cash on hand,	1,023 19
	<hr/>
	\$9,074 00

I hereby certify that I have examined the accounts of D. F. Small, Treasurer for the year 1887, and find them correct and properly vouched, and find in his hands \$1,023 19.

GEO. L. HALL, *Auditor.*

J. W. MERRILL, Collector,

In account with the Town.

DEBTOR.

To Balance due, last report,	\$3,318 04
Commitment for 1887,	10,333 25
	<hr/>
	\$13,651 29

CREDITOR.

By paid balance State tax 1886,	\$1,704 43
" State tax 1887,	2,119 86
" County tax 1887,	597 29
Cash 1886 bills in full,	1,613 61
" bills 1887,	2,537 71
Discount,	164 82
	<hr/>
	\$8,737 72
	<hr/>
	\$4,913 57

FINANCIAL CONDITION.

ASSETS.

Due from Pownal,	\$27 27
Tax deeds,	215 00
J. W. Merrill,	4,913 57
Cash,	1,023 19
	<hr/>
	\$6,179 03

LIABILITIES.

Due Schools,	\$700 78
Notes,	2,925 00
J. E. Merrill,	95 00
Frank Moulton,	71 00
W. E. Winslow,	64 25
J. E. Merrill, moderator,	3 00
D. F. Small, clerk and treasurer,	43 62
Geo. L. Hall, auditor,	2 00
J. W. Merrill,	118 00
H. J. Merrill,	35 00
F. B. Blanchard,	30 00
H. B. Mountfort,	27 50
G. T. Richards,	220 00
	<hr/>
	\$4,335 15
Balance in favor of the town,	1,843 98

It will be seen by the foregoing report that all taxes previous to 1887 have been paid in—the “brick house and wood lot” sold—and the Field note collected.

Respectfully submitted,

D. F. SMALL, *Treasurer.*

SCHOOL REPORT

To the Citizens of Falmouth:

The following report of the schools of the town for the year 1887 1888 is hereby submitted for your consideration.

Amount of money raised by town,	\$2,000 00
" received from State,	845 43

Apportioned to the several districts, as follows.

No. Dist.	Name of Agent.	No. Scholars.	Apportionment.
1	H. P. Kimball,	50	\$250 00
2	J. W. Stubbs,	51	255 00
3	Algernon Bowie,	80	400 00
4	Dana Eustis,	40	220 43
5	W. T. Mitchell.	46	235 00
6	C. E. Winslow.	30	205 00
7	W. H. Winslow,	64	320 00
8	W. F. Babb,	31	210 00
9	Addison Leighton,	38	225 00
10	Lorenzo Leighton,	19	165 00
11	T. M. Lewis,	24	182 50
12	Levi Hicks,	23	177 50

In presenting our report for the year just closing, we wish to call your attention to several things which we believe will be for your interest to consider. As a committee, we have desired to do what we could to make successful the schools under our supervision. But to make cheerful, comfortable, and attractive school-rooms; to awaken an interest and enthusiasm, where parents, teacher, and scholars had none, and to bring into our schools the large number of scholars whom indulgent and uninterested parents have permitted to stay away from the opportunity of an education, has been beyond our power.

We will not go into the details of each school, but will simply report that with our imperfect system the schools have been attended with as good results as could be expected. As in our report last year, so again, we are obliged to report failure on the part of some districts to provide even comfortable rooms for school purposes. Some repairs have been made in the larger districts, but the condition of much of the school property in this town is lamentable indeed, and a disgrace to any civilized community, and, whether left in possession of the respective districts or taken by the town, must receive your immediate attention.

You are aware that the State Superintendent very strongly advocates the abolition of the whole district system. This subject is worthy of your serious consideration in order that you may act upon it understandingly whenever the question shall come before you. Space will not permit us to discuss this matter in its many phases, but let us examine the subject with care, putting away the idea of deprivation of rights, take a practical view of it. Your Committee would recommend the adoption of some measure for the immediate support of a Free High School or Schools in our town. Many towns have taken advantage of the law favoring the establishment of such schools. In 1883, eighty-seven towns voted to maintain one or more and received from the State Treasury \$8,869 65. In 1884, one hundred and twenty-three towns received \$21,888 35. In 1885, one hundred and forty-two towns received \$23,541 01. In 1886, one hundred and sixty towns received \$26,040 68. We are taxed to help support these schools in other towns. Can we afford to do this and be deprived of them at home? A high school free to all seems to be a necessity. Let us have it. We live in an age of progress, and what answered the purpose only a few years since, will not meet the wants of to-day. A wider range of study, and a better acquaintance with the machinery of government on the part of the masses, demand a corresponding breadth of instruction. Whatever may be said of other interests in our town, our schools are above any, or even all, in importance, therefore we claim your attention, and ask your consideration of these suggestions proposed, whereby your money may yield better educational results. We ask it for the scholars of the town and they may demand it.

Agents, we wish you to inform all applicants, whom you employ to teach, to apply for their certificates on the day, or days, appointed by the Superintending School Committee, or Supervisor, for examinations.

HENRY J. MERRILL,	} <i>Superintending</i>
F. B. BLANCHARD,	
H. B. MOUNTFORT,	
	<i>School</i>
	<i>Committee.</i>

Number District.	Name of Teacher.	Term.	Whole attendance.	Average attend'ce.	Length in Days.	Wages per Month.	REMARKS.
1	Isabel Jordan,	Summer,	31 24	40 32	00		Although different teachers were employed for the several terms good results attended each.
	Susie M. Winslow,	Fall,	28 25	40 32	00		
	Annie M. Winslow,	Winter,	29 26	50 36	00		
2	Julia M. Thompson,	Summer,	28 23	40 32	00		Improvement.
	Julia M. Thompson,	Fall,	30 27	40 32	00		
	Julia M. Thompson,	Winter,	30 25	55 32	00		
3	D. O. Moulton,	Summer,	47 41	45 40	00		Best.
	D. O. Moulton,	Fall,	46 37	45 48	00		
	D. O. Moulton,	Winter,	47 38	75 50	00		
4	H. B. Mountfort,	Summer,	20 17	30 38	00		Short term, but good results. Fair Progress.
	A. M. Otis,	Winter,	22 20	70 38	00		
	Annie L. Gowen,	Summer,	33 31	55 30	00		
5	Annie L. Gowen,	Fall,	29 27	50 30	00		One of the best.
	Annie L. Gowen,	Winter,	31 28	45 32	00		
	Ida M. Strout,	Summer,	19 17	45 24	00		
6	Ida M. Strout,	Fall,	20 18	40 30	00		Thorough work and excellent discipline.
	Ida M. Strout,	Winter,	17 16	40 30	00		
	S. Ellen Brackett,	Summer,	26 20	40 32	00		
7	S. Ellen Brackett,	Fall,	31 29	50 36	00		Fair success.
	S. Ellen Brackett,	Winter,	35 29	65 40	00		
	Edith N. Rowe,	Summer,	23 17	50 24	00		
8	H. J. Merrill,	Fall,	26 23	35 40	00		Profitable. Scholars interested.
	H. J. Merrill,	Winter,	26 21	35 40	00		
	Kittie P. Prince,	Summer,	14 12	45 28	00		
9	Virgil L. Leighton,	Winter,	14 12	70 35	00		Good improvement. Successful.
	Mary I. Wilson,	Summer,	7 4	35 20	00		
10	Eddie C. Winslow,	Winter,	7 6	50 28	00		
11	Eva G. Leighton,	Summer,	13 12	40 20	00		Too small for profit. fair work. Fair results for such poor accommodations.
	Cora B. Leighton,	Winter,	13 12	75 24	00		
	Annie M. Winslow,	Summer,	14 13	40 28	00		
12	Annie M. Winslow,	Fall,	15 13	37 32	00		Profitable year.
	Annie M. Winslow,	Winter,	15 13	35 32	00		